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USSR

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INFORMATION RECEIVED BY KENT (1943)

From: WASHINGTON

To: MOSCOW

No.: 713

1st Apr, 43

To [Name No. 42]. [ii]

On 30 March 1943 a Marine Corps Captain told KENT: [ii]

1. The recently formed Fourth Division of the Marine Corps, which will be sent to the CONTINENT [iii] in the near future, is undergoing training at NEW RIVER. [iv]
2. [B% It is believed that] the U.S. Navy Special Intelligence Service is situated not in the Navy Building, but in newly constructed premises in the area of MASSACHUSETTS, NEBRASKA and WISCONSIN AVENUES (North West). It is guarded by picked Marines and inside by officers. On the outside, the post is surrounded by three lines of fences and the latest signalling system is in use.
3. The Naval Intelligence Service is selecting from officers and enlisted men cadres of people who know Russian for possible use in the Far East in case we go to war with JAPAN.
4. Among officer circles there is apprehension that the Reds, without waiting for the opening of the second front, will deal with HITLER on their own, force him to conclude a separate peace with us, and so free his hands for a blow at ENGLAND and the U.S.A.
5. The short-barrelled sightless quickfiring rifle (up to 400 rounds a minute), which was recently taken into service, has given unsatisfactory results during trials: the barrel quickly becomes overheated and wears away with firing. After recent tests of all well-known types of firearm our rifle and the American WINCHESTER were recognised as being the best.

No. 252

[Name No. 91] [v]

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Comments: [i] Name No. 42 : Unidentified.  
          [ii] KENT : Unidentified.  
          [iii] CONTINENT : Presumably a cover-name denoting some part  
                              of AUSTRALASIA. The U.S. Marines did not  
                              come to Europe, and the Fourth Division was  
                              in action in the Pacific early in 1944.  
          [iv] NEW RIVER : A Marine Training Camp in North Carolina,  
          [v] Name No. 91 : Unidentified.

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